eMOLT Fall 2013 Update

Please mail in probes

Please remember to mail in your temperature probe in if you haven't already. You can mail probes to Jim Manning, NOAA, 166 Water St, Woods Hole, MA. 02543. Please remember to provide documentation of lat/lon and depth deployed. **Please include this information even if it is the same spot as previous years so that I can validate my records.** For those of you who have not yet mailed a probe back in 2013, you can reuse the padded envelope that I mailed this newsletter.

Year-round monitoring

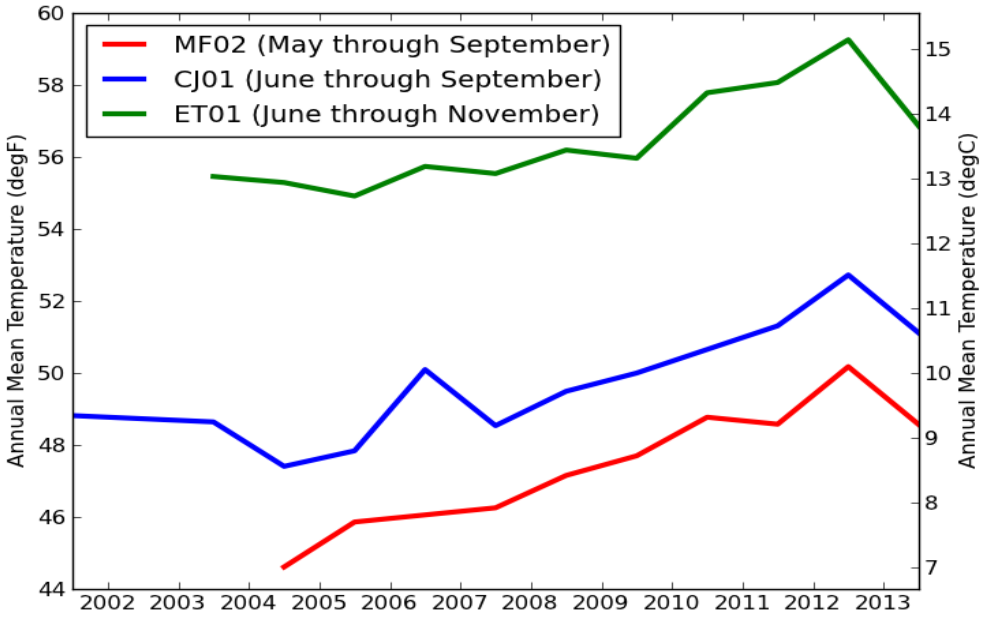
If you would like to maintain a year-round monitoring site, let me know, and I will mail you a fresh probe to swap out with the one you have. You can email james.manning@noaa.gov or call 508-495-2211 (office) or 508-566-4080 (cell). We understand there is a good chance the probe will be lost over the winter but we are willing to take that chance.

Some temperature probes are low on battery

As I noted when I mailed the probes in the Spring of 2013, some of them are on their last year of battery life. If yours dies during the deployment there is still chance I can get some of the data off the probe but , in these cases, there will be a delay of months before you see the results. Fortunately, I have a batch of new probes that will replace some of the old ones in 2014.

General results of temperature monitoring this past year

Based on the data returned from probes thus far in 2013, this year was still warm relative to the eMOLT history but not as warm as 2012. Beginning a few years ago, a new style graphic is produced for each site that simple plots the "annual mean" temperature for that site. A few examples are shown below for the different cases of Mike Faulkingham (Winter Harbor), Jon Carter (Bar Harbor), and Elliott Thomas (Casco Bay). Note that they can not be compared exactly since their fishing season varies.



Status of non-temperature related projects

The bottom current meters that we first designed and tested with your help in 2008-2011 are now being manufactured in bulk and will be deployed in 2014 at dozens of sites. They now have a digital compass integrated into the electronics to provide absolute direction. The camera project is put on hold until we can find funding to deal with the thousands of images that many of you showed can be generated. The drifter project has expanded to be primarily an educational tool. We have added a set of construction manuals at "studentdrifters.org" where teachers can go to learn how to build their own unit. So, if any of your local schools might be interested, please point them to that site.

Offshore lobstermen help deploy unmanned sailboats

Thanks to Todd Ellis, Bob Colbert, and Bro Cote (as well as all their captains and crew), several 5' mini-sailboats were deployed a few days after Thanksgiving on the southern flank of Georges Bank. These unmanned vessels are built in Maine, sponsored by various school districts, and tracked on the same web pages as our drifters. Dozens of these units have been deployed in the last few years in hopes they make it across the ocean. To follow this latest fleet, got to: http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/drifter/drift_ep_2013_2.html

eMOLT.org Website

We welcome your feedback on the emolt.org website. It hasn't changed much over the years but, given some input from the viewers (if there are any), it could be easily modified. What types of things would you like to see? Keep in mind that, in addition to the "What's New" link that is recommended most often, there are links to all the reports as well a page specific to each participant which one can access by following links to "Results>>Temperature Study>>Direct link to Individual Webpages".

Collaboration with Canada's Fishermen Scientist Research Society

continues to develop. They have been funded recently by Environment Canada to setup eight year-round moorings on the west side of Nova Scotia. The plan is to merge this data with eMOLT and vice-versa. It will be good to have this information on the conditions upstream.